



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 22, 2015

H.R. 34

Tsunami Warning, Education, and Research Act of 2015

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation on February 26, 2015*

SUMMARY

H.R. 34 would amend and reauthorize the Tsunami Warning and Education Act. The bill would authorize appropriations totaling \$162 million over the 2016-2021 period for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to carry out activities under that act. Based on information from NOAA and assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$121 million over the 2016-2020 period and \$41 million after 2020. Because enacting H.R. 34 would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 34 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 34 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2016- 2020
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	27	27	27	27	27	135
Estimated Outlays	18	23	26	27	27	121

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the end of 2015 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar activities.

H.R. 34 would authorize the appropriation of \$27 million a year over the 2016-2021 period for NOAA to maintain tsunami warning centers, support efforts by local governments to mitigate the effects of tsunamis, and fund research related to tsunamis. In 2015, NOAA received appropriations totaling \$31 million to carry out those activities. Based on information provided by the agency, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$121 million over the 2016-2020 period and \$41 million after 2020, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 34 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Coastal state, local, and tribal governments could benefit from programs and assistance authorized in the bill. Any costs they incur, including matching contributions, would result from participation in voluntary federal programs.

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